



that various changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention which is defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

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## CLAIMS

- 1        1. A method for correcting the clock in an digital video  
2        data stream transmitted in packets over a network, said  
3        method comprising the steps of:
- 4        a. placing said video packets in an output FIFO memory;
- 5        b. outputting data from said output FIFO according to a  
6        clock rate or bit rate that is adjustable;
- 7        c. filtering the level of data in said output FIFO to  
8        produce a current average level and a previous  
9        average level; and
- 10       d. changing said adjustable clock rate or bit rate  
11       according to said current average level and said  
12       previous average level;
- 13       whereby said output FIFO level is driven towards a  
14       predetermined target level.

1           2.    The method of Claim 1 wherein in step d the adjustable  
2                   clock is changed according to the relationship:

3                   if  $|(aveFifoLevelCurrent - TargetLevel)| <$   
4            $|(aveFifoLevelPrevious - TargetLevel)|$  then the  $BitRateChange =$   
5            $MinBitRateChange;$   
  
6                   if  $aveFifoLevelCurrent > TargetLevel >$   
7            $FifoLevelPrevious$  or if  $aveFifoLevelCurrent < TargetLevel <$   
8            $aveFifoLevelPrevious$  then  $BitRateChangeDir = -BitRateChangeDir$ , and  
9            $BitRateChange = MinBitRateChange;$   
  
10                  if  $|(aveFifoLevelCurrent - TargetLevel)| >$   
11            $|(aveFifoLevelPrevious - TargetLevel)|$  then  $BitRateChange = 2 *$   
12            $BitRateChange.$

1           3.    The method of Claim 2 wherein in Step d the rate at which  
2                   said clock is changed is limited to a maximum rate in  
3                   accordance with at least one predetermined specification.